

HCA 10 Camperdown Park Heritage Conservation Area



Figure 10.1 HCA 10 Camperdown Park Heritage Conservation Area

10.1 LOCATION

The Camperdown Park Heritage Conservation Area is located south of Parramatta Road near Australia Street in Camperdown.



Figure 10.2 The Area in 1943 and 2009. The zigzag lines in the park in the 1943 photograph are an air raid shelter. (source: NSW Lands Department SIX Viewer)

10.2 DESCRIPTION

The Camperdown Park Estate Heritage Conservation Area is a small heritage conservation area focused on the open space of Camperdown Park at its centre. The buildings surrounding the park are typologically consistent two-storey Victorian terrace houses with a small group of shops integrated into the terrace group near the intersection of Gibbens and Fowler Streets. The area also contains mature street trees that enhance and visually extend the park environment. A rare surviving animal water trough is also located near the intersection of Gibbens and Fowler Streets. The western edge includes early 20th Century industrial/warehouse buildings and the home of Robert Fowler, an important local industrialist and politician; and the house Fowler provided for the manager of his adjacent pottery works.

The built forms of the terraces overlooking the Park are generally modest examples of their type. The terraces at the western end of Fowler Street, near Australia Street, are set back from the street alignment approximately 3m and some are separated by ogee profiled dividing walls to the garden which contributes to the rhythm of the streetscape. Others are separated by low transparent dividing fences. Several have been layered, including the enclosure of balconies and the rendering of late Victorian/Federation transition era face brickwork. This group also includes a larger scale Inter-War retail/commercial development which is three stories in height and extends the full length of the block to the laneway at the rear. A more traditionally configured two-storey shop is located immediately to the east of this development which has retained its original shopfront.

The group of terraces at the eastern end of Fowler Street (from Mallett to Gibbens Streets) reads as a single group but upon closer inspection is formed of three shorter runs, with those at the eastern end having their veranda roof integrated with the main roof and those at the western end demonstrating the more common configuration although distinguished by the rounded edges to the dividing walls on the front facades. The roofs of the latter group are arranged in pairs as they step down the hill, creating a pleasing rhythm to the streetscape.

The terraces along Pidcock Street also overlook Camperdown Park. They were built in three separate stages, with two additional bays inserted between them, one of which is a single storey in height. Their alignment is not square to that of the road, giving a slightly disorganised effect to the streetscape which is wide and accommodates cars parked at 90° to the carriageway. These terraces are noticeably more modest than those in Fowler Street and demonstrate a wide range of layering, including the infill of verandas at upper-level and construction of high brick walls to the street frontage. Street trees are consistent and include a range of native species. The aesthetic qualities of the local streetscape is notable for the chimneys of one of the terrace groups which are located in the centre of each bay and parallel to the ridge. The quality of the streetscape view looking west from Mallet Street is high, terminating in the open space/playground of the Australia Street Public School which is located at the western end of Pidcock Street.

Gibbens Street intersects with Fowler St in the middle of the street block at the southern edge of Camperdown Park. The carriageway has been closed at the intersection with Fowler St. This terrace is a good examples of its type with most of the bays substantially intact in their form. Many have been subjected to minor cosmetic alterations, but most changes are reversible.

The Park itself provides a strong focal point to this area and contributes positively to the aesthetic values. It includes a two-green bowling club, tennis courts and basketball courts as well as a cricket pitch etc. on the oval.

The north-western corner of the area provides a different urban character, but one that is also associated with the former Fowler works. As well as the two houses associated with the Fowler Pottery works it also includes a refurbished Federation industrial/warehouse and an unprepossessing red-texture brick building housing the Portuguese Ethnographic Museum. Both of the houses are heritage items in the Marrickville Local Environmental Plan.

The following figures illustrate the main elements and characteristics of the Camperdown Park Heritage Conservation Area.



Figure 10.3 and 10.4. Camperdown Oval was created after the closure of the Fowlers Pottery Works pit and is a simple open space surrounded by mature ficus plantings. Its northern end is devoted to recreational facilities such as tennis courts and bowling greens with two simple banked grandstand seating areas overlooking the oval. The southern end integrates with the streetscape at the intersection of Fowler and Gibbons Streets.



Figure 10.5. The streetscape of Fowler Street includes some mature trees that help to extend the open space qualities into the surrounding area.

Figure 10.6. Park furniture includes a bandstand and simple bench seating.



Figure 10.7 and 10.8. Fowler Street is truncated by a street closure near Gibbons Street. This space has an oasis quality due to the deep shade created by the ficus trees.



Figure 10.9 and 10.10. The closure is also marked by the Sullivan RSPCA horse water trough with a separate bowl for dogs at the end (now disused).



Figure 10.11 and 10.12. Terraces to Fowler Street are simple and step down the hill under paired roofs. Those at the eastern end are narrow examples of their type. The streetscape quality of the group is high..



Figure 10.13. Fowler Street includes this unusual variation on a semi-detached terrace.

Figure 10.14. The Gibbons Street terrace forms a strong streetscape element through its unity of built form and detailing, terminating in the road closure at the southern end of Camperdown Park.



Figure 10.15 and 10.16. A small group of shops at the southern end of Camperdown Park provides a focal point for the area. The shops have retained their original facades with ingo entrances. The awning to the small shop in figure 10.15 is fringed by a decorative valance.



Figure 10.17 and 10.18. The terrace facing the south western corner of Camperdown Park is more substantial and demonstrates a combination of Victorian and Federation influences. Some balconies have been infilled but these changes are largely reversible. The prevailing iron palisade fence can also be seen.



Figure 10.19. The shop is part of a relatively substantial commercial group that is a prominent element in the internal views from Camperdown Park.



Figure 10.20. The northern end of Camperdown Park is also lined by groups of terraces. The lack of dividing walls and use of iron palisade fences between properties establishes a spacious streetscape character.



Figure 10.21. The rear of the Pidcock Street terraces are highly visible from Mallett Street. The survival of the original form of a group such as a terrace of this scale without any major extensions is rare.



Figure 10.22. The Pidcock Street terraces were built in several distinct groups. The group at the left of this photograph have prominent chimneys located in the centre of each bay on the ridgeline.

10.3 SUMMARY OF HERITAGE VALUES

The Camperdown Park Estate Heritage Conservation Area is of aesthetic significance for demonstrating the pattern and growth of the terrace-house typology in Sydney during the mid-late 19th Century with a small group of shops integrated into the terrace group near the intersection of Gibbens and Fowler St. The Park was formerly part of the Fowlers Pottery works and provides evidence of the adaptive re-use of industrial sites for civic beautification. The contemporary Park demonstrates high aesthetic values within the context of the local area and it demonstrates the principles of early 20th-century urban park design, including the alienation of areas of the park for specialised recreational activities. The horse and dog watering trough is rare surviving evidence of 19th Century infrastructure, as is sandstone kerbing and guttering. It represents the principal characteristics of the development of the Marrickville Council area from an early Estate to urban cultural landscape. The area provides valuable evidence of substantially intact and differently detailed groups of terrace housing in an unusual setting overlooking a major park which allows them to be appreciated as a group composition.

KEY PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1889 – 1910

The Camperdown Park Heritage Conservation Area demonstrates heritage values that satisfy the NSW Heritage Council's Criteria for listing as a locally significant heritage conservation area. These values can be seen in the area in many ways, including:

Heritage Council Guideline for Inclusion satisfied	Crit.	Heritage value	How the value can be seen in the area today
The Area demonstrates overlays of the continual pattern of human use and occupation	A	The cultural landscape of the Area demonstrates the pattern of development in the Council area from early land grants to densely settled urban landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area provides evidence of the pattern of development in the area now known as Camperdown/Newtown from the mid to late 19th century. - This area demonstrates historic significance through the ability of its contemporary urban form to demonstrate the location of the earlier brick pit and

Heritage Council Guideline for Inclusion satisfied	Crit.	Heritage value	How the value can be seen in the area today
			<p>pottery works, and to demonstrate the adaptive reuse of former industrial sites for civic purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area was developed over a short period (approximately 10 years) and demonstrates a high consistency of built form - The streetscapes demonstrate the pattern and growth of the terrace-house typology in Sydney during the mid-late 19th Century.
The area is associated with a locally significant person and activity	B	The area was originally (1948-1919) part of Fowler's brickworks. Brickmaking was a prominent industry in Marrickville in the second half of the 19 th Century.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The owner of the Brickworks was Robert Fowler who was also a JP; MLA, MLC and Mayor of Camperdown and Sydney City Councils. Fowler also lived in the area at 14 Australia Street (Cranbrook). - When the brickworks closed the pit was filled and became Camperdown Park. - Fowler Street is named after Robert Fowler.
The area demonstrates the principal characteristics of a class of Marrickville's cultural places (residential)	G	It demonstrates the principal characteristics of the development of the Marrickville Council area from an early Estate to urban cultural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The area provides valuable evidence of the standard terrace house in an intact setting overlooking a major park, and which was formerly an industrial site. - The area also provides evidence of the practice common in 19th Century Sydney of providing purpose-built accommodation for employees – in this case a manager's residence. <p>Cultural layering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-War austerity • Post-War migration • Gentrification
The area demonstrates the principal characteristics of a class of Marrickville's cultural places (retail)	G	It demonstrates the principal characteristics of the development of the Marrickville Council area from an early Estate to urban cultural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The small group of shops provides a focal point for the local community.
The area demonstrates the principal	G	It demonstrates the principal characteristics of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camperdown Park provides a high quality space and recreational facilities for the local

Heritage Council Guideline for Inclusion satisfied	Crit.	Heritage value	How the value can be seen in the area today
<p>characteristics of a class of Marrickville's cultural places (public domain)</p> <p>The area has attributes typical of the particular philosophy and design of Marrickville Council (and its predecessors)</p>		<p>development of the Marrickville Council area from an early Estate to a suburban cultural landscape and contains high quality streetscapes and public domain elements representative of civic management and improvement programs.</p>	<p>area. It demonstrates high aesthetic values within the context of the local area and demonstrates the principle of early 20th-century urban park design, including the alienation of areas of the park for specialised recreational activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The school playground is not part of Camperdown Park but it reads as open space due to its mature tree growth (which also terminate views to the west from Pidcock Street) and the physical proximity to the Park. - Horse and dog watering trough - rare surviving evidence of 19th Century infrastructure - Sandstone kerbing and guttering - Street tree planting of the late 20th Century Environmental movement (primarily native species: bottlebrush, melaleuca etc.) – taller species adversely impacted by overhead cable clearance
Is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/ or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the Marrickville area.	C	It contains many buildings and elements of individual and group aesthetic value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The aesthetic quality of the residential development surrounding the park and overlooking it is high, both in terms of interesting variation to the standard typology of the two-storey terrace house in Marrickville and through the streetscape qualities of the rows as they step down the hill in response to the local topography. - Their open setting allows them to be viewed and appreciated as a group in a way that cannot usually be achieved in the typical, narrow streetscapes of 19C urban areas. - A proportion of individual properties within the area have been layered, including through the addition of dormer windows, rendering, loss of original detail and other changes of this type but the prevailing qualities of the streetscape and its ability to demonstrate the principles of late 19th-century workers housing remain readily interpretable in the contemporary landscape.
The area contains groups and streetscapes which collectively illustrate representative types of Marrickville's cultural landscape.	G		

10.4 DEFINING THE EXTENT OF THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA

The boundaries of the heritage conservation area reflect the identified heritage values of the area and the ability of the fabric of the houses and streetscapes to demonstrate these values. They recognise the impact that the changing role and character of the land uses and buildings have had on the layer of development from the significant era of development (1889-1910).

The Area is focused on the Park, and its boundary follows the rear of the overlooking terraces (Pidcock and Fowler Street). The western edge of the park follows the alignment of Australia Street and includes the existing heritage items Cranbrook and the Managers Cottage (10-14 Australia Street). The remainder of the Australia Street streetscape was excluded because the terraces do not demonstrate the same degree of consistency of form and many have lost their integrity due to heavy layering; and the industrial buildings demonstrate different values to those of the Camperdown Park area and are listed as heritage items in the existing local environmental plan. Mallett Street marks the eastern edge of Marrickville Council's area and its boundary with Sydney City Council.

10.5 ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AREA

The table above outlined the ways in which the heritage significance of the Camperdown Park Heritage Conservation Area are expressed through the contemporary cultural landscape.

The relevant planning controls to conserve the evidence of the area's heritage significance are contained in the Mixed Residential Streetscapes section of the DCP (see the DCP for details).

The Camperdown Park Heritage Conservation Area also contains many details, or fine-grained elements that are found throughout the area on buildings of different styles and types that contribute to the integrity and heritage significance of the area. The elements are not found on all buildings; but if they are present they need to be retained in any new development. Further details about how to protect these details and incorporate them in new development can be found in the detailed DCP sheets.

SUBDIVISION AND PUBLIC DOMAIN ELEMENTS:

- Camperdown Park – layout, plantings and elements
- Street tree plantings, particularly the mature plantings near the intersection of Fowler and Gibbens Streets which creates a strong focal point to the group
- Sullivan RSPCA water trough.
- Sandstone block kerbing
- Consistent subdivision pattern oriented towards the park

ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONSISTENCY OF THE STREETSCAPE (VISIBLE FROM THE PUBLIC DOMAIN)

- Continuous streetwall – created by rows of terraces of same scale and bulk
- Prominent and high-quality stepped roofscapes and rhythms created by consistent building height and form following variations in topography
- Building typologies reinforce the tight urban grain.
 - Groups and runs of terraces demonstrate strong streetscape qualities including cohesiveness of form, scale, rhythm and materials.
 - High quality detailing to front elevation of intact and substantially intact terraces
 - Increasing simplification of scale and detailing towards rear – including window size, bulk and visual prominence in view from street
- Roof forms appropriate to typology and period of construction

- Primary ridgelines of roofs are aligned parallel to the street
- Roof forms of groups or runs of buildings demonstrating consistent pitch and rhythm
- Lack of major alterations to roof form and volumes
- Original chimneys contribute to the quality and visual interest of roofscapes – NB: group with centrally placed chimneys.
- Original dormer windows - small and vertically proportioned
- Intact or substantially intact built elements
 - Consistency of form and detailing to intact and substantially intact original dwellings and streetscapes
 - Any additions visible from the public domain that are of a minor scale, respect original built form and are unobtrusive in the context of the streetscape
- Building heights appropriate to typology and period of construction (predominantly 2 storey)
- Detailing and finishes appropriate to typology and period of construction
 - Window openings appropriate for architectural type
 - Timber framed windows
 - Complex timber framed windows to main bay of front elevation
 - Use of appropriate colour schemes for detailing
- Fences appropriate to typology and period of construction
 - Original Iron Palisade fences

ELEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE INTEGRITY OF THE OVERALL PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA (NOT NECESSARILY VISIBLE FROM THE STREET)

- Footprints of additions to the rear respect the traditional pattern of development (including service wing/pavilion/recessive scale)
- Vehicle access from rear lanes (where available)

10.6 DETAILS AND ELEMENTS THAT DETRACT FROM THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AREA

The Camperdown Park Heritage Conservation Area has undergone many layers of change and alteration over the years since it was first developed. Some of these contribute to the cumulative heritage significance of the area but others do not because they are of an irreversible nature or result in a visual fabric that destroys, overwrites or otherwise confuses the identified values of the area. These include:

- Overscaled and poorly proportioned additions
- Alterations to roof forms and volumes visible from the street, including poorly sited and proportioned dormer windows and lifted ridgelines.
- Inappropriate use of dormers (contrary to typology)
- Application of conjectural detailing to new work
- Concrete tiles or inappropriate use of metal panels to roof.
- Removal of original detailing
- Alteration to fenestration patterns (including reconfiguration/re-orientation of vertical openings to horizontal)
- Removal/replacement of timber windows with aluminium

- Application of conjectural detailing to new work
- Inappropriate use of dormers
- Historically inappropriate fence design and details not relevant to terrace typology and/or incongruous/visually intrusive in streetscape views
- Visually intrusive security measures (eg light painted bars and grilles on external face of buildings)
- Replacement fences of type or form inappropriate to building typology and/or intrusive on aesthetic value of streetscape
- High front fences
- Non-transparent front fences